1797

RULES

For the general Government of the

CHARITY SCHOOLS,

instituted by the

Methodist Society

IN

WEST-STREET, SEVEN-DIALS,

LONDON:

with

AN ADDRESS

TO THE

PIOUS AND BENEVOLENT

OF

ALL DENOMINATIONS.

Whoſoever ſhall give unto one of theſe little ones a cup of cold water only, in the name of a diſciple, verily I ſay unto you, he ſhall in no wiſe loſe his reward. JESUS CHRIST.

London:

PRINTED IN THE YEAR M.DCC.XCVII.

TO THE

PIOUS AND BENEVOLENT

Of all Denominations.

UNSPEAKABLY great are the Advantages that flow from an early Religious Education; and the Want of it is greatly to be regretted by every good Man. Children go aſtray from the Womb, and Youth is prone to Folly: they are more apt to follow a *Multitude* in doing evil, than to imitate the *few* whoſe Example and Precepts are good.—What then can be done to ſtop the Progreſs of Vice? What, to ſow the Seeds of Virtue and Morality in the Minds of Children and Youth? Perhaps no better Plan can be deviſed than that of Religious Education. There is no doubt but this Mode of cultivating the Mind had its Origin in Heaven; it deſcended to Earth from the Great Father of Lights, and is agreeable to the living Oracles—*In the Morning ſow thy Seed.*

The Mind, while young and tender, is capable of receiving deep Impreſſions of Honeſty and Goodneſs: And when once a Child is trained up in the Way he ſhould go, it is not often that he departs from it. It will certainly require much Labour and Care, "To teach the Young Idea how to Shoot;" but that Toil and Care will be abundantly recompenſed

penſed by the good that accrues to the Subject itſelf, and to the Community at large.

A Child religiouſly educated, eſcapes ten thouſand Snares which are ſpread for his Feet: he ſhuns the Path of the Deſtroyer. He contracts an Eſteem for the beſt Books, the beſt Manners, and the beſt Men: hence he commences a worthy and uſeful Member of religious and civil Society. He is induſtrious in his Calling, honeſt in his Dealings, and reſpectable in the Eyes of all his Connections. But above all, he has the Teſtimony of his Conſcience, and the Approbation of his God.

The Subſcribers to this Charity are earneſtly deſirous of preſenting ſuch Characters to the Public; and to attain this valuable End, they have inſtituted two Schools, the one for thirty-two Boys, and the other for twenty-two Girls. They have great reaſon to bleſs God, that they have a Maſter and Miſtreſs, who have the preſent and the eternal Intereſts of the Children deeply at Heart: and they hope their Labour will not be in vain.

They earneſtly ſolicit the Patronage and Support of a Generous Public, to enable them to carry on this Work of Mercy. Help, according to your Ability, and God will repay you. The Bleſſing of them that are ready to periſh will come upon you; and you will cauſe the Heart of the Widow to ſing with Joy. Aid with your Subſcriptions and Donations, and remember Him who hath ſaid—*Inſomuch as ye have done it unto the leaſt of theſe, ye have done it unto me.*

RULES, &c.

I. THESE Schools ſhall be open for the Admiſſion of the Children of the Poor of every Denomination: their Number not uſually exceeding fifty-four; namely, thirty-two Boys, and twenty-two Girls. None ſhall be admitted under ſeven Years of Age, nor above eleven: and none ſhall be continued after they are fourteen.

II. The Boys ſhall be taught Reading, Writing and Arithmetic; the Girls, Reading, Writing, and Plain-Work, (and the four eldeſt or beſt Scholars Arithmetic.) They ſhall be annually clothed in the Month of May; and have Shoes, Stockings, and Linen, twice in the Year: They ſhall alſo be provided with Books, Pens, Ink and Paper, at the Expence of the Charity.

III. Quarterly Meetings ſhall be held in the Morning Chapel at Weſt-Street, on the ſecond Tueſday in January, April, July, and October. Perſons ſhall be choſen to fill the different Offices of this Charity: namely,—The Committee, Treaſurer, Secretary, Collector, Viſitors, &c. who ſhall be choſen by the Subſcribers at the Quarterly Meeting in April.

IV. The

IV. The Subſcribers alone ſhall have the right of preſenting Children to theſe Schools, as follows: a Subſcriber of one Guinea a Year, may preſent one Child, and a Subſcriber of two Guineas a Year, two Children, and ſo in proportion. Two Subſcribers, of Half-a-Guinea a Year each, ſhall have jointly the Preſentation of a Child: and a Subſcriber of ten Guineas ſhall be deemed a Subſcriber for Life, and ſhall be entitled to the ſame Advantages as a yearly Subſcriber of one Guinea. The Preſentations ſhall be in Rotation, according as the Names of the Subſcribers ſtand in the Subſcription Book.

V. Notice of each Quarterly Meeting ſhall be ſent, by order of the Secretary, to every annual Subſcriber of Half-a-Guinea, and upwards, at leaſt three Days before: when all Accounts of Monies received, and Bills paid, ſhall be produced for their Inſpection.

VI. A Committee ſhall be choſen annually by the Subſcribers, to do the Buſineſs of the Charity; and to ſee the Rules properly executed, and to admit Children: five of whom ſhall have Power to act for the whole. They ſhall meet four Times a Year by Appointment of the Secretary or oftener if required.

VII. No Candidates ſhall be permitted to canvaſs for any vacant Place, 'till the major Part of the Committee aſſembled for that purpoſe, have

have approved of them: and all Elections ſhall be determined in one Week at moſt, after the Committee ſhall have nominated proper Candidates.

VIII. On every Vacancy, the Subſcriber who is next in Rotation ſhall have one Month's Notice from the Secretary, to preſent a Child at the next Meeting: and in Default thereof, the Right of Preſentation ſhall devolve on the next Subſcriber; unleſs Reaſons are aſſigned to the contrary. Books ſhall be kept, in which ſhall be inſerted the Names of the Children, their Ages when received, by whom recommended, and when they were diſcharged or left the Schools, with the Reaſon thereof.

IX. The Children preſented by the Subſcribers ſhall be approved of by the Committee, previous to their Admiſſion to the Schools: and ſhould any Child be rejected as an improper Object of the Charity, the Subſcriber ſhall be informed thereof, that he or ſhe may preſent another.

X. If any Subſcriber withdraw his or her Subſcription, after preſenting a Child; the Committee ſhall be at Liberty, if they think proper, to diſcharge the ſaid Child from the Schools, unleſs ſome other Perſon continue the Subſcription for the Benefit of the Child.

XI. No Child ſhall be admitted that has any Infectious Diſorder; and the Parents are particularly

ticularly desired to send them to School every Day clean, and decently Clothed. The Parents or Friends of each Child admitted, shall procure some respectable Housekeeper to be Security for the Clothes, who shall sign an Agreement for the Payment of thirty-nine Shillings on default. And when any Child shall be removed by the Committee for not conforming to the Order of the Schools, or be taken out before the Expiration of the Time; the Clothes of such Child shall be returned, except the Committee shall see Cause to the contrary. The Children shall bring their Clothes to the Master or Mistress every Monday Morning, to be kept by them till the next Saturday Evening.

XII. The Children shall attend the Schools from seven o'Clock to nine, and from ten to twelve in the Forenoon; and from one to five in the Evening, from the first of March to the first of November: and from nine to twelve, and from one to four, from the first of November to the first of March: their usual Hour of Dinner shall be from twelve to two o'Clock. Any Child that shall be absent, without a sufficient Reason assigned to the Visitors for the Time being, shall be considered as withdrawn, and the Vacancy shall be filled up. One or more of the Visitors shall visit each School, at least twice in the Week, and report to the Committee at their next Meeting. The Children shall have one Week's Vacation at Christmas,

Chriſtmas, a Week at Eaſter, and a Week at Whitſuntide.

XIII. The Children ſhall not uſually continue in the School above four Years: but, for the Encouragement of thoſe who make the greateſt Proficiency in Learning; the three beſt Scholars amongſt the Boys, and the two beſt amongſt the Girls, ſhall have Liberty to continue a fifth Year, to aſſiſt the Maſter and Miſtreſs, and to improve themſelves. Every Child who leaves the Schools with a good Character, ſhall be preſented with a new Bible.

XIV. Every Child ſhall meet at his or her School every Lord's Day, half an Hour before the Morning Service, and half an Hour before the Afternoon Service; and ſhall proceed from thence to the Chapel, under the Direction of their reſpective Maſter or Miſtreſs: and ſhall return to their Schools at ſuch Hour as the Maſter or Miſtreſs ſhall direct; when the Maſter and Miſtreſs, or Viſitors, ſhall ſpend one Hour in inſtructing them in the Things of God.

XV. The Maſter and Miſtreſs ſhall begin and end the School Hours with Singing and Prayer. Great Care ſhall be taken of the Childrens Morals; and ſuch Inſtructions ſhall be given them in the Principles of Religion, as they are capable of receiving, at leaſt once a Week. One of the Preachers ſhall meet the Children at their re-

ſpective School once a Week, for that Purpoſe, from three to four o'Clock in Winter; and from four to five in Summer. The Maſter and Miſtreſs ſhall each keep a Book, called the Abſentee Book, which ſhall be called over and filled up one Hour after the School begins each Day; and thoſe who are not then preſent ſhall be reported as Negligent, and be dealt with accordingly. This Rule extends to Sunday alſo.

XVI. The Maſter and Miſtreſs when elected, ſhall not be under thirty, nor more than fifty Years of Age: and muſt have taught a School at leaſt two Years before. They muſt have been Members of the Methodiſt Society, for at leaſt one Year previous to their Election, and of unblemiſhed Character. The Maſter ſhall have twenty-one Shillings per Week, two Guineas a Year for Coals, and eight Pounds towards his Rent. The Miſtreſs ſhall have twelve Shillings per Week, two Guineas a Year for Coals, and two Shillings per Week towards her Rent. Neither of them ſhall teach any other Children, during the Hours appointed to teach theſe Schools. The Maſter or Miſtreſs on receiving Notice from the Committee, ſhall quit the School in three Months: or, if they deſire to leave the School, they ſhall give the Committee three Months Notice.

XVII. All Elections for Maſter, Miſtreſs, &c. ſhall be by Ballot: and no Perſon ſhall be allowed

allowed to vote whoſe Subſcription is in Arrears, or who has not been a Subſcriber for three Months. Ladies only are allowed to Vote by Proxy.

XVIII. The Subſcribers ſhall chooſe a Collector, who ſhall give Security to the Committee if required; and not retain more in his Hands than ten Pounds at one Time. He ſhall alſo have a check Book. He ſhall keep a perfect Liſt of the Subſcribers, and regularly collect the Subſcriptions to the Charity, as they become due; and ſhall pay the ſame to the Treaſurer, for which he ſhall receive one Shilling in the Pound. He ſhall attend all General Meetings and Committees, and at every Quarterly Meeting deliver an Account to the Committee of ſuch Subſcribers as are deceaſed or withdrawn. The Treaſurer's and Collector's Accompts ſhall be audited annually in the Month of March, and the Balance declared to the Subſcribers. Three Auditors ſhall be choſen from among the Subſcribers, not of the Committee, at the Meeting in January.

XIX. The Subſcribers ſhall chooſe a Treaſurer of this Society. He ſhall enter in a Book kept by him a juſt and true Account of all Monies received and paid by Him: and ſhall, when called on by the Committee, make ſuch Payments as the Money in his Hands from Time to Time will allow.

XX. Neither

XX. Neither the Maſter nor Miſtreſs ſhall receive the leaſt Gratuity from the Children's Parents or Friends, in Conſideration of their Inſtruction, for Breaking-up, or upon any pretence whatſoever, on pain of Diſmiſſion.

No new Rules ſhall be valid, until confirmed after the next Quarterly Meeting.

MEMORANDUM for thoſe who wiſh to bequeath any Thing to this School.

"*Item.*——*I*, A. B. *do hereby give and bequeath the Sum of unto the Treaſurer for the Time being of the Methodiſt Charity Schools in London, for educating Poor Children, held at Weſt Street Chapel, Seven Dials; the ſame to be paid within Months after my Deceaſe, out of my perſonal Eſtate; in Truſt to be applied to the Uſes and Purpoſes of the ſaid Charity Schools.*"

Mr. EDDINGTON, No. 13, Norton-Street, Portland-Road, is appointed Collector for the preſent Year.

A LIST

A LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS.

A

Arnott, Mr. *Blackheath*
Aſhton, Mr. *High Holborn*
Arthur, Mr. *Great Queen-ſtreet, Lincoln's-inn-fields*
Aughterlony, Mr. *Chancery-lane*

B

Bowers, Mr. *Great Queen-ſtreet, Lincoln's-inn-fields*
Barr, Mrs. *Orange-ſtreet, Leiceſter-fields*
Bakewell, Mr. *Greenwich*
Braune, Mrs. *near Warwick-court, Holborn*
Ball, Mr. *Middle row, St. Giles's*
Bebington, Mr. No. 8, *City-road, Moorfields*
Bagſter, Mr. No. 20, *Piccadilly*
Beardmore, Mr. *Milk-ſtreet, Cheapſide*
Beardmore, Mrs. *ditto*

C

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Clulow, Mr. No. 10, *Chancery-lane*
Courtier, Mrs. *Hammerſmith*
Chamberlain, Mr. *Bedford-court, Covent-Garden*
Collinſon, Mrs. *Gravel-lane, Southwark*
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Coatts, Mr. No. 7, *Edward-ſtreet, St. George's-fields*
Collinſon, Mr. No. 34, *Lombard-ſtreet*
Clark, Mrs. *Brick-lane, Old-ſtreet*
Crockford, Mr. *Fiſher-ſtreet, Red Lion-ſquare*

D

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Dand, Mr. *Little Newport-ſtreet*
Davidſon, Mr. No. 24, *Bow-ſtreet, Covent-garden*

E

Edwards, Mr. *Grafton-ſtreet, Soho*
Elſworth, Mr. No. 13, *Stanhope-ſtreet, Clare-market*
Elſworth, Mr. *Caſtle-ſtreet, Leiceſter-fields*
Edington, Mr. No. 13, *Norton-ſtreet, Portland-place*

F

Farmer, Mr. *Kennington Common*
Fiſh, Mr. *Saliſbury-ſtreet, Strand*
Fitzgerald, Lady, *Charles-ſtreet, Berkley-ſquare*
Fethers, Mr. *Grafton-ſtreet, Soho*
Folgham, Mr. *Fleet-ſtreet*
Folgham, Mrs. *ditto*
Fowler, Mr. *Bell-yard, Temple-bar*
Fetzer, Mr. No. 16, *Vineyard-gardens, Snows-fields*

G

Griffith, Mr. Apothecary, *Tottenham-court-road*
Griffiths, Mrs. No. 9, *Colebrook-row, Iſlington*
Gardiner, Mr. *Vere ſtreet, Clare-market*
Gome, Mr. *Cook's-row, St. Pancras*
Goff, Mrs. E. No. 9, *Tower-ſtreet, Seven-dials*

H

Hugginſon, Mr. *Bow-ſtreet, Covent-garden*
Hunt, Mrs. No. 40, *King-ſtreet, Soho*
Hunter, Mr. *Great St. Martin's-lane*
Heſter, Mr. *at Mr. Gome's*
Holbrook, B. Eſq. *Cheſter-place, Lambeth*
Holbrook, Mrs. *ditto*
Hale, Mr. No. 1, *Cleveland-ſtreet, Middleſex Hoſpital*
Hockley, Mr. *near the Seven-dials*
Hughes, Mrs. No. 52, *Marylebone-lane*
Howarth, Mr. *Duke-ſtreet, Bloomſbury*
Hurrel, Miſs, *at J. Keyſall's, Eſq. Upper Gower-ſtreet*

J.

Jones, Mr. No. 3, *Langley-ſtreet, Long-acre*
Jenkins, Mr. No. 4, *John-ſtreet, Edgware-road*
Jones, Mr. *at Mr. Milbourn's, Strand*

K

Keyſall, J. Eſq. *Upper Gower-ſtreet*
Keyſall, Mrs. *ditto*
Keyſall, Miſs, *ditto*
Kent, Mrs. No. 116, *Holborn*
Kennedy, Mr. No. 125, *Fetter-lane*

L

Latouch, Mrs. No. 55, *Wardour-ſtreet, Soho*
Langford, Mrs. *Lambeth Marſh*
Lee, Mrs. J. No. 13, *Hart-ſtreet, Covent-garden*
Langdall, Mr. *Crown-ſtreet*

M

Mortimer, Mr. *Fleet-ſtreet*
Mortimer, Mrs. *ditto*
Mortimer, Mrs. E. *ditto*
Mortimer, Mrs. T. *ditto*
Mortimer, Mr. H. *ditto*
Macalaſter, Mr. No. 3, *Phillip's buildings, Somer's Town*
Milbourn, Mr. *Strand*
Marriott, Mr. *Hoxton-ſquare*
Matheſon, Mr. No. 41, *Great Queen-ſtreet, Lincoln's-inn-fields*
Monk, Mrs. No. 17, *Tabernacle-row*
Marſh, Mr. No. 28, *High-ſtreet, St. Giles's*
Middleton, Mr. *Fleet-ſtreet*

O

Oliver, Mr. *Moorfields*
Oates, Mr. No. 11, *Short's Gardens*

Q

Quinſey, Mrs. No. 32, *City Road*

R

Rex, Mr. *Northumberland-ſtreet, Strand*
Roſe, Mr. ——— *ſtreet, Red-lion-ſquare*
Rawlings, Mr. *Drury-lane*
Rellfe, Mr. *Portland-ſtreet, Portland-place*
Rowley, Mr. *Drury lane*
Robinſon, Mr. *Wild-ſtreet, Drury-lane*
Roberts, Mrs. No. 42, *Titchfield-ſtreet*

S

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Scott, Mr. J. *Stanhope-ſtreet, Clare-market*
Scott, Mr. R. *Arundel-ſtreet, Strand*
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Symmonds, Mr. J. No. 180, *Fleet-ſtreet*
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Shum, Mrs. *Houghton-ſtreet, Clare-market*
Savage, Mrs. No. 32, *City road*
Sundius, Mr. No. 6, *Winckworth-row, City-road*
Salt, Mrs. No. 18, *Long-acre*
Stubbs, Mr. *Holborn*

T

Turner, Mr. *Great St. Martin's-lane*
Taylor, Mr. *Green-ſtreet, Leiceſter-fields*
Taite, Mr. No. 2, *Snow-hill*
Taylor, Mrs. *Green-ſtreet, Leiceſter-fields*
Tolkien, Mr. *near Bow Church, Cheapſide*
Tooth, Mr. *City-road*
Thomas, Mrs. No. 12, *Bow-ſtreet, Bloomſbury*

V

Vince, Miſs, *Brownlow-ſtreet, Holborn*

W

Wilſon, Mr. *Exeter, or at Mr. Kennedy's*
Wood, Mr. S. *Bridewell Precinct, near the Temple*
Walton, Mr. *Kentiſh Town*
Wilkinſon, Mr. *Dartmouth-ſtreet, Weſtminſter*
Wolff, George, Eſq. *America-ſquare*
Williamſon, Mrs. No. 20, *Garden-row, St. George's-fields*
Wilſon, Mr. *Walker's-court, Berwick-ſtreet*
Wilcke, Mrs. No. 3, *Little Ruſſel-ſtreet, Drury-lane*

FINIS.